Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:03 p.m., until 2 p.m. on Monday, September 17, 2012. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Acting Majority Leader in today's Record on page \$6389.)

### Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

### CONSUMER FINANCIAL PROTECTION BUREAU

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Committee concluded a hearing to examine holding the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau accountable, focusing on a review of the semi-annual report to Congress, after receiving testimony from Richard Cordray, Director, Consumer Financial Protection Bureau.

#### **NOMINATIONS**

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Stephen D. Mull, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Poland, and Dawn M. Liberi, of Florida, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Burundi, both of the Department of State, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

# QUALITY OF DISABILITY BENEFIT AWARDS

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations concluded a hearing to examine issues related to the quality of disability benefit awards involving 300 case files of claimants under the Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and Supplement Security Income (SSI) programs involving initial applications and subsequent levels of appeal, after receiving testimony from Patricia Jonas, Executive Director, Office of Appellate Operations, Debra Bice, Chief Administrative Law Judge, Douglas Stults, Hearing Office Chief Administrative Law Judge, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma Hearing Office, Thomas Erwin, Hearing Office Chief Administrative Law Judge, Roanoke, Virginia Hearing Office, and Ollie L. Garmon III, Regional Chief Administrative Law Judge, Atlanta Region, all of the Office of Disability Adjudication and Review, Social Security Administration.

#### IMPROVING COLLEGE AFFORDABILITY

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: Committee concluded a hearing to examine improving college affordability, focusing on a view from the states, after receiving testimony from Camille Preus, Oregon Department of Community Colleges and Workforce Development Commissioner, Salem; John G. Morgan, Tennessee Board of Regents Chancellor, Nashville; Muriel A. Howard, American Association of State Colleges and Universities, Washington, DC; and David Longanecker, Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, Boulder, Colorado.

#### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the following business items:

- S. 675, to express the policy of the United States regarding the United States relationship with Native Hawaiians and to provide a process for the recognition by the United States of the Native Hawaiian governing entity, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute;
- S. 1345, to provide for equitable compensation to the Spokane Tribe of Indians of the Spokane Reservation for the use of tribal land for the production of hydropower by the Grand Coulee Dam, with an amendment in the nature of a substitute; and
- S. 1684, to amend the Indian Tribal Energy Development and Self-Determination Act of 2005, with amendments.

## IMPACTS OF THE CARCIERI AND PATCHAK DECISIONS

Committee on Indian Affairs: Committee concluded an oversight hearing to examine the impacts of the Carcieri and Patchak decisions, after receiving testimony from Donald Laverdure, Acting Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs; Jefferson Keel, National Congress of American Indians (NCAI), Washington, DC; John Echohawk, Native American Rights Fund (NARF), Boulder, Colorado; and Colette Routel, William Mitchell College of Law, St. Paul, Minnesota.

### **BUSINESS MEETING**

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee ordered favorably reported S. 645, to amend the National Child Protection Act of 1993 to establish a permanent background check system, with amendments.

#### **INTELLIGENCE**

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee held closed hearings on intelligence matters, receiving testimony from officials of the intelligence community.

Committee recessed subject to the call.